

Sites in Stevens County

Van Stone Mine

Health Assessor - Rhonda Kaetzel Phone: 360-236-3357

Community Outreach and Education - Erin Kochaniewicz Phone: 360-236-3358

Site Manager: Brendan Dowling - Washington State Department of Ecology

Site Background

Van Stone Mine, a former open pit mine, was actively mined from 1951-1994 for zinc, lead, and to a lesser amount copper and silver. In 1961 the upper tailings pile catastrophically failed and a surging wall of liquid and tailings entered Onion Creek drainage. A second lower tailings impoundment was constructed downstream. Currently, Ecology is directing a remedial investigation of the site in fall 2011.

Activity Report

DOH is waiting for analytical results from Ecology's sampling efforts during October 2011.

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Planned Future Activities

DOH will prepare a health consultation after the site data is collected during the remedial investigation.

DOH will attend a public meeting after the health consultation has been completed. We will be available to address health concerns by members of the community.

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Future Documents Planned For This Site

A health consultation will be prepared for this site by Rhonda Kaetzel. The next stage for the health consultation is Internal Review Draft. The target date to reach this stage is January 2012.

The subject of this health consultation is to assess the potential exposure and health effects of people near the Van Stone Mine.

